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BY WM. H. CHANDLER.

THE UNION OF THE WHIGS—FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION.

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"Not Caesar's weal, but that of Rome."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1845.

OPINIONS OF THE MESSAGE.

The Washington Correspondent of the *Baltimore Patriot* asserts that there are two points in President Polk's Message which will be apt to detract from its merits in the estimation of well balanced minds.

"1st. The charge against England and France—the Governments of those countries not two or three of their small Charges! Affairs—of having interloped to prevent the annexation of Texas to the United States, and the *taunt* that in their failure 'European governments may learn how vain diplomatic arts and intrigues must ever prove upon this Continent,' would better become some person or functionary less exalted than the Chief Magistrate of the Nation!—Such a *taunt* towards France from the President of the United States, in his official message to Congress, is certainly not calculated to do much in the way of creating the sympathies of that nation, should we get into a brush with England!

"2d. The President admits that he offered the 49th parallel as a 'compromise' settlement of the Oregon question—and this too, after he had positively and solemnly declared to the American people that our right to the whole of that territory was 'clear and unquestionable!' He says that after the British Minister rejected the proposition, it was withdrawn, and our right to the whole of Oregon asserted and maintained! If Mr. Polk was sincere, in his inaugural, in asserting that our right to the whole was 'clear and unquestionable,' why was the 49th parallel offered to Mr. Pakenham? Mr. Polk says, because our Government had twice before offered it! Do three wrongs make a right? But the whole aspect of the case has materially changed since those offers were made by our Government. Neither Mr. Monroe, nor Mr. Adams, nor Mr. Clay asserted that our right to the whole of Oregon was 'clear and unquestionable.' From the lights then before them, those statesmen, if they asserted that England presented no colorable title to the Territory, did not avow that our title to it was 'clear and unquestionable.' They believed there was authority for contention in the matter, and hence they offered the 49th parallel. But since that time, researches have been made—old documents have been hunted up—new lights have shone upon the subject—and the great body of the people of the United States have looked into the matter and become satisfied that Oregon is ours up to the Russian line! Mr. Polk, too, is satisfied of this. He has asserted that our claim to that line 'is clear and unquestionable,' and yet he admits, that, with such knowledge, he offered to give away to England all that portion of Oregon lying between the parallels of 49 degrees and 54 degrees and 40 minutes north latitude, for the sake of a settlement of the question!"

The *Courier des Etats Unis*, the French Organ published in New York, speaks thus of that portion of the Message which relates to France and to Oregon:

"Let us simply state, that it (the message) will disappoint the expectation of those who expected to find the language of the Democratic President an eccentric or licentious rudeness, such as might help to give food to the passions of party, and be the provocation and signal for international struggles. We do not mean to say that the message is not stamped, in all the questions upon which it touches, with a frankness and with a vigor which give to it a powerful interest, and even a terrible importance. One may almost hear in reading it the growling of the thunder, which has been threatening for so long a time to burst over the peace of the world. Notwithstanding all this, Mr. Polk has had the skill to disguise in a most surprising manner the energy of his ideas, and the audacity (or boldness) of his intentions, under forms full of moderation, tact, and courtesy. For a great many years past, the people of the United States have never held forth to foreign powers language so proud and yet so calm. If there is not justice, at least there is always some dignity in complaints accompanied with menaces. France comes in for her share of these complaints; we 'take them on her behalf in good part; for if Mr. Polk has reproached her with an interference in the tortuous business of annexation, which he pretends to take as hostile to the United States, though not contrary to the rights of nations, (an interference which in reality, was a more bungling piece of business,) yet, at

the same time, he has given this reproach with expressions of regret for the imaginary interruption of French and American friendship, and with hopes and wishes for its re-establishment, all which affords to us a guaranty that the President will entertain nothing but sympathy and good feeling towards France. Also, let us thank Mr. Polk for the strong recommendations which he has addressed to Congress in favor of an important branch of French commerce, which the tariff of 1842 has completely paralyzed. We mean the duties on the wines of Oporto.

"He comes next to the famous Oregon question, and gives its diplomatic history above—from its first commencement—explaining that since 1818, the parallel of the 49th degree of north latitude has been three or four times offered to England; that this has always been refused; and that after having himself repeated this offer, (with some restrictions, which made it more than ever unacceptable) Mr. Polk formally withdrew the offer, and is now decided not to yield an inch of that territory, of which six months ago he was willing to abandon the one-half! It is in reference to this part of the message, above all, that we meant to say the boldness of its intentions or purposes is masked beneath the adroitness of its forms: The President, as to the rest, confines himself to requiring the termination of the joint occupation, after a preliminary notice shall have been given to England, in conformity with the treaty of 1827. It is only at the expiration of this delay that he lets us see the glimpse of a war, which is thus, as it were, adjourned over for fifteen or eighteen months. Surely, this is very consolatory. In the mean time, in order to take advantage of diplomatic delays, he asks for some measures to be taken, the object of which is to effectuate the installation of American sovereignty in Oregon, California, sister of Oregon, which with that country also, is an object of the covetousness of the American and British ambition, is not mentioned by name in the message, but has not the less evidently inspired that threatening paragraph, which accompanies and finishes the part relating to American balance of power!"

The *National Intelligencer* concludes a very lengthy article on this important document thus:

"To take a more general view of the message, its great length, to which we have already alluded, is scarcely out of proportion to the magnitude of the public conjuncture which it will but too probably be the effect of the policy, now plainly announced to create. We look on it, in a word—should the measures which it suggests be executed—as perhaps the most important document of the sort which the country has for a long term of years had presented to it.

"As far as the executive authority or influence can do so, and as far as the open taking of positions so decisive indicates an assured reliance on a legislative support sufficient to carry them out to national action, the message seems to us a distinct public crisis of a very startling magnitude; and, if a crisis, it is as clearly one entirely voluntary and artificial.

"There is nothing to urge us to difficulties with England; there is everything to solicit us to good understanding with her—a Christian love of peace, the honest desire of gain, the warning of at least as much precedence as tells us that a contest with her must involve calamities for which the event can afford us little compensation but the dreadful one of having inflicted loss as terrible as we shall have suffered. At home, the legislation of 1842 seems, at least, to have brought back one general flow of prosperity, of rewarded and happy labor in nearly every branch of industrial production. And, hand in hand with this gradual and healthy recovery, has come the very utmost which, in that particular, a people need desire, or its government ought to accomplish for it—a good, sound, sufficient and no more than sufficient currency. All this being so—and so it unquestionably is—it is perfectly clear that a system of measures imminently hazardous to peace, of production, and of the moneyed circulation, is the creation of a crisis in a state of health; a difficult emergency when we were at ease, a conjuncture hardly less than appalling when we were wrapped in the arms of safety.

"We say it with reluctance; but all the threatening contingencies which the administration seems to us thus to have seized, appear to be little better than the fulfilment of engagements in which the Executive has been entangled by circumstances—of a supposed obligation on his part to meet the declarations of a party convention. The tar-

iff is to be pulled down, because the rump of the Baltimore convention issued that *dictum*, when half the members were gone; the Sub-Treasury is to be restored, because the President supported before it had been tried; and measures most unlikely to be taken as to Oregon, because the Executive was unadvised enough to make, in an inaugural discourse, a declaration on the subject as extreme as it was inopportune!

"Our peace is to pay for the President's indiscretion; our fortunes are to be wrecked that he may be consistent on the Sub-Treasury; our workshops and looms are to be overturned that the Appendix to the Baltimore Convention may be glorified! But this especially we say, and say it solemnly: By an extra official *dictum*, pronounced possibly in mere inadvertence, the Executive at once disabled himself; and went so far as to disable Great Britain, from taking a proper course in this negotiation, and conducting it in a due spirit. We protest against having the mighty interests of a people's peace trifled with, as has been done by both sides, the President setting the example, and Sir Robt. Peel following it. The mercy of the common law disqualifies, in case of life or death, to the lowest criminal, to sit as a jurymen, any one who has made up or uttered an opinion before he is empanelled; and it is monstrous that here, where the lives of thousands of unoffending people are at stake, a President & a Premier should be allowed to enter into a negotiation, pledged, by every principle of vanity or popularity, before they know what can be done or ought to be done, to yield nothing.

"There is, however, yet another general aspect in which we are bound to consider these main recommendations, as a body of measures—as a system whether meant for such or not."

"A British ministry has no more *jure divine* about it than a President—may, probably has greater, not less, need to consult the popular passions on subjects where they listen but little to reason. The Executive should see that the English Government is as little like to give way on this question as he; that, therefore, serious possibilities of a war are involved in his refusal to compromise or arbitrate; and that these are strengthened, if what he proposes to Congress be done. War, then, is quite a possible part of the political programme which he offers. And how does he propose to make us ready for it? By filling our coffers? By invigorating the arts and trades at home? No; we are to carry on a war with hard money, and abolish home industry, that we may have a abundant supplies independent of foreign trade!"

"These are, it appears to us, the general indications of this ominous message.

The *Louisville Journal* has the following on the same subject:

Mr. Polk must have been perfectly aware that England would not, in the Oregon negotiation, accede to worse terms than had been offered her by other administrations. He himself acknowledges, that he felt the necessity and propriety of proposing to yield the same boundary that preceding administrations had offered, but he refused to offer the right of navigating the Columbia which those administrations had offered. This right we consider of no consequence, but it is not so considered either by England or by Mr. Polk.

"Mr. Polk know to an absolute certainty that England would decline the proposition thus modified, as she had twice declined it even before its modification, and he knew and knows, that, if Congress assume and maintain his position and carry out his recommendation, war is inevitable. He recommends that notice be given of the cessation of joint occupancy, and that measures be adopted, after the expiration of one year, to take possession of the whole territory, not to latitude 49, but latitude 54, 40, the boundary of Russia.

"The reader will naturally suppose that it was Mr. Polk's deliberate designs to precipitate the country into a war. This may have been the case, but our impression is that his views were different. The whole message, the double dealing on the tariff, the high-toned announcement that no European influence or colony can be allowed on this continent, the eulogy on the pre-eminence, the swelling declamation about innate self-government and the irresistible spread and outmarching of free principles and free men, and the various other passages in the demagogic vein—all these things indicate a design to assume a popular position and to run for a second term. Our impression is that he counts on the influence of certain judicious friends

to prevent the horrors of extremities. Then he would occupy this position: with the moderate he would gain credit for moderation by having refused, in his negotiation, to go with his party in demanding the whole Oregon Territory, and he would challenge the admiration and applause of the enthusiastic, adventurous, and warlike, by denying to any foreign power the right to navigate any waters lying within the territory of the stars and stripes. There seems to be no calamity to which the demagogue will not expose his country to win applause of the thoughtless, the reckless, and the wicked.

"Mr. Polk gives notice that he has withdrawn the proposition, which he made and which England rejected, and that he now goes for the whole of Oregon.

We suppose he means that he will not now concede to England even the terms that he himself has already offered her. Of course he knows that she will not satisfy herself & subject herself to disgrace in the eyes of the whole world by accepting less than what he has offered and she has refused, so that he seems at last to have resolved on shutting the door of negotiation and driving Great Britain to the wall. We again say, that, if the Locofoco Congress act up to the expressed views and policy of the Locofoco President, all the nameless and countless horrors of a long, bloody and most terrible war between the two mightiest nations of the earth are inevitable."

The *Cincinnati Gazette* concludes a notice of the message as follows:

"Taking the message all in all—temporarily written as it is—we regard it as opening up an entire new policy for our government and standing, or recommending measures as regards our foreign relations not of a peaceful character. Sum up the points. The tariff is to be destroyed—the sub-treasury restored—and insurances begin (with regard to Oregon) which necessarily disturb, if not destroy, the general peace. Here is a new system entirely. FREE TRADE AND HARD MONEY. And to follow this proposed weakening of the industrial arm of the nation, first by putting it under the control of foreign capital and foreign labor, and secondly in reducing it to the hardships of a hard money policy, we are to tread close upon the heels of war! These are fearful things to contemplate. They bode no good to our country or to man.

A BAR-MAID.

The very agreeable correspondent of the *Boston Atlas*, whose "Pen and Ink Sketches" we have frequently copied, is now in England, and he thus writes about English Bar-Maids:

"Ah! I ought to depict her lineaments on silver paper. Just walk into a bar with me, reader. It is a large apartment—garnished with decanters, tumblers, sugar-spoons, squeezers, nutmeg-graters, spoons, and lemons. In the centre is a table, on which lies the bar-maid's needle work—her thimble and scissors are idle now, for she is busy decanting a bottle of sherry. Look at her! How daintily she is dressed in a neat morning gown and a cap, which, when set at a commercial traveller, half kills him 'right off.' Did one ever see such a pretty figure?—As her little feet go pat, pat, over the carpeted floor, looking like little mice popping in and out, one almost forgets her face, which is so sweet in expression, that when she looks into a jug of punch, very little sugar is required. Then she has such a neat way of handling every thing; and when she sits down to write in the bar-book, she holds the pen so gracefully, that you cannot help being curious as to her hand writing, which is delicate, angular, and on the most approved principle.—She is, of course, a favorite; and so, many a gentleman brings her bouquets, which you may see all about the room. Unlike the genteel waiter, she is very courteous to all the under servants, who style her 'Miss,' yet she exacts respect; and no one, no not even the dashing gentleman who goes so far as to call her by her christian name, would dare to take a liberty with her. She is unkillable. The very master of the house, who has a snug chair for himself in the bar, looks at her with deference. And there she is all day long in that bar, smiling and simpering, mixing brandies and water, and purveying port; working and coquetting—tripping hither & thither, with the pleasant look and the cheerful word for every body. And that is the Bar-Maid."

Mr. Ritchie, of the Union, never witnessed the assembling of Congress until this year; he was much delighted at the spectacle.

The mail arrangements to this city have become a perfect nuisance. To the skies with the Postmaster General and all his contractors.

A person on being once asked what he thought of pyrotechnics, replied, that the fire works which pleased him most, were the flashes from the brilliant eye of a pretty woman.

INDIANAPOLIS CORRESPONDENCE

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 13th, 1845.

Wm. H. Chandler:—Dear Sir.—In my last letter I think I informed you that in the election of U. S. Senator two Whigs voted blank tickets. In this I was mistaken, and although the mistake was not of much importance yet I may as well correct it; the two votes that were counted as blanks were for Gov. Whitcomb, and were cast by democrats; and two (instead of one as I stated in my last) whigs voted for Bright under instructions. The Senate occupied four days of last week in attempting to elect a President *pro tem* of that body. There were ninety-eight ballottings without any choice. On Friday morning a compromise was made between the intelligent parties, by which G. S. Orrin, Senator from Tippecanoe, was elected President with the understanding that he shall resign a few days before the close of the session, and that his place should then be filled by a democrat. On Wednesday last the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider a joint resolution previously offered proposing to reduce the number of Senators to 31 and the number of Representatives to 62. Various amendments to the resolution were offered each proposing a different number, but the committee finally, by a majority of one or two votes, resolved that the reduction was impracticable, and amended the resolution by striking out 31 and inserting 50, and striking out 62 and inserting 100. The resolution as amended was reported to the House, and upon the question shall the House concur in the amendment, (the yeas and nays being demanded) the vote stood yeas 47, nays 45. There will, therefore, in all probability, be no reduction. The utmost good feeling prevails in the House and I apprehend that even the 'apportionment question' will not interrupt it. On Friday the Governor communicated to the House a communication from Charles Butler, Esq., agent of our bond-holders. By request of the speaker and with the unanimous consent of the House, Mr. Butler appeared within the bar of the House and read the communication himself. The House ordered 1000 copies of the communication to be printed, for the use of the members and appointed a committee of one from each judicial circuit (to act with a similar committee on the part of the Senate) to take said communication into consideration and confer with Mr. Butler relative thereto. The Senate yesterday reciprocated the resolution by appointing a like committee. I will send you a copy of the communication as soon as it is printed. Yesterday a Bill passed the House for the relief of Lewis W. Stinson, James Scanlin and other purchasers of School Lands in Vanderburgh county. Also a Bill providing for the re-appraisal of real estate for taxation; and also a Bill to enable foreigners who reside in the United States to take, hold, devise, transmit and convey real estate without having declared their intention to become citizens. Should the Bill to re-appraise real estate for taxation pass the Senate and be approved by the Governor I will see that it is forwarded to the Auditor of your county without delay. Yours truly,

C. B.

THE GIANT SKELETON.

The Skeleton discovered in Williamson county in this State, and supposed to be that of a human being, has frequently been referred to, within a few days past, in the H. of Representatives. Notwithstanding the description of it, as Wouter Van Twiller would say, "we have our doubts about the matter."

This skeleton was found about sixty feet beneath the surface of the earth, embedded in a stratum of the hardest kind of clay.—The bones are said to be in a perfect state of preservation, and weigh in the aggregate 1500 pounds.

All the large and characteristic bones are entire, and the skull, arms, and thigh bones, knee pans, shoulder sockets and collar bones, remove all doubts, and the animal to whom they belonged has been decided "to belong to the genus homo."

This gentleman when he walked the earth, was about 18 feet high, and when clothed in flesh must have weighed not less than 2000 pounds. "The bones of the thigh and leg measure 6 ft., 6 inches; his skull is said to be about two-thirds the size of a flour barrel, and capable of holding in its cavities near two bushels. (He must have had a goodly quantity of brains, and if intellect be in proportion to the size of the brain, he must have possessed extraordinary intellectual powers.) The description of the features, states, that "a coffee cup of good size could be put in the eye-sockets." The jaw teeth weigh from 3 to 6 pounds.

It is stated that an eminent physician and anatomist is engaged in putting the skeleton together, and that it will shortly be ready for public exhibition.—*Newville Orthopedic.*

THE ENGLISH HOUSE OF PEERS.—The London Punch gives the following sketch of a scene in the House of Peers.

Lord Campbell was beginning to address the house, when—

Lord Brougham interferred.

A Noble Lord thought it would be as well to hear what Lord Campbell had to say.

Lord Brougham did not care what any one thought.

Lord Campbell: Why, you have spoken twice already.

Lord Brougham: Well, and how many times would you have spoken if you could?

Lord Wm. St. John: There is nothing before the house, and this is irregular.

Lord Brougham: What's irregular? I know I'm regular interrupted whenever I get up; and if there's no motion, what's that to me? It's for the noble lord himself who complains to propose one.

Lord Campbell: I rose, for the purpose—

Lord Brougham: Of course you did; but any purpose may be no purpose.

Lord Campbell: Really I must appeal to the noble lord on the woolsack, whether—

Lord Brougham: Who prevents you from appealing to the Woolsack? I can do that myself, if that's all.

Lord Campbell: I really have reason to complain of the very gross and extraordinary conduct—

Lord Brougham: Why, you've complained three times already. If you're going to speak again, you had better let us have something in the shape of a motion.

The Lord Chancellor: If the noble lord (Campbell) has a motion to submit, he is quite in order; but if not, I think his proceeding to make any further observation would be irregular.

The Duke of Wellington: I have listened to this conversation with some attention, and I do not think giving my opinion as an old member of this house; that there's much to be gained by it.

Lord Campbell: I was only going to say—

Lord Brougham: But you can't say it.—Make your motion!

Lord Campbell then moved that the house adjourn, which was carried, and their lordships broken up.

AN INDIAN HANGING.—The first Indian that was capitally executed by the Cherokee under Cherokee laws and by a Cherokee Sheriff, was a man named Nat, who was hanged several years ago about five miles from Arkansas, for the murder of another Indian, who was called Musquito. We have the particulars from an eye witness. The Sheriff had caused a gallows to be erected a short distance from the Conni Lodge, but when the culprit was brought to it, he being a very tall man, it was found to be too short for his accommodation, and some other place had to be sought for the execution. The whole band of Indians, with the Sheriff, and Nat in the midst of them, then betook themselves to the banks of the Arkansas, in search of a proper tree from which to suspend the prisoner; and after a little time, a tall cotton wood was found, with a projecting branch: up the trunk, that in the opinion of all was suitable for the purpose. Nat, now that all things were ready, expressed a wish to bathe in the river once more, which he was permitted to do, carefully guarded by the rifles from the shore. He went into the water, frolicked about for some time, swam to and fro with great apparent pleasure—then came to the shore, donned his blanket and stood ready for the last act of the drama.—The Sheriff now told him to climb the tree, which he commenced doing, the officer of the law toiling up after him with the fatal cord. Nat reached the projecting limb of the tree, and was desired by the Sheriff to work himself as far out upon it, from the trunk, as he could—which was done, when the Sheriff adjusted the noose around his neck, and tied the other end of the rope around the limb. All these preparations were conducted with the utmost coolness, and the most perfect good understanding existed between the Sheriff and the Indian. When all the arrangements were completed, the Sheriff told Nat that he would slide down the tree to the ground, and make a signal when, he the prisoner, must jump off the limb—to which Nat cheerfully assented. The Sheriff reached the ground, and looking up to the limb upon which sat the poor victim, he shouted—"Now, Nat, you red devil jump!" And jump Nat did, and after a few wiggles, hung a mass of lifeless clay, to the infinite wonderment of his red brethren, who had never before been regaled with the sight of an execution of that kind.

SINGULAR FANATICISM. Milerism appears to be raging at Ham-burgh, N. Y., where several families, heretofore of good standing, have been guilty of conduct criminal and beastly. The Buffalo Pilot says:

As a specimen of their doings, it has been related to us that a negro, seated upon the table, acted as the interpreter of the will of the Lord. He would say, "The Lord says dance," and the whole assembly would join in a wild and disorderly dance around the room. Again he would repeat: "The Lord says down," and all would fall upon the floor. And "the Lord says roll," and they would roll promiscuously across the floor like so many hogs in a pen. These ridiculous practices, and others of a fictitious and criminal nature, formed the amount of their doings.

"Sir, which of your children do you prefer, the boys or the girls?" "Why, as long as the boys suck their mother, I like them best; but when they begin to suck me, I prefer the girls."